

DNRC-WRD: East Fork Rock Creek Main Canal Lining Project
(Granite County)

The Flint Creek Water Project is a state-owned water storage project managed by the DNRC State Water Projects Bureau. All day-to-day operations and maintenance costs are the responsibility of the Flint Creek Water User's Association. The Flint Creek Water Project consists of:

- East Fork Rock Creek dam and reservoir
- 7.7 mile main canal and four delivery canals
- Original construction completed 1938
- Supplies irrigation water to 44 farms and ranches in the Philipsburg Valley
- Originally designed to provide supplemental irrigation to 18,500 acres, currently irrigates approximately 10,000 acres in the Flint Creek Drainage
- Offers a recreational resource to hunters and fisherman

In 2010 the DNRC installed new monitoring sites along the canal to help identify and quantify seepage rates. Data collected in 2010 and 2011 shows seepage loss in the reach of canal from the headgate to the East Fork Siphon can be as high as 30 acre-feet per day, with a seasonal average of 15 to 20 acre-feet per day. This considerable quantity of water is lost through the highly pervious canal berm. Water lost through seepage dissipates into the ground with no beneficial use.

The proposed East Fork Rock Creek Main Canal Lining Project would install liner along a 1,200 foot highly pervious section of the main canal. Lining the canal would accomplish the following:

- Eliminate the loss of water to seepage
- Conserve, and put to beneficial use, water captured in the East Fork reservoir
- Keep more water in the system, which benefits farmers and ranchers, fish and wildlife, sportsman and recreationists
- Protect from excessive seepage water the recently installed 4,000 foot long East Fork siphon

The Flint Creek Water User's Association has a long history of making financial contributions to help maintain the project's infrastructure. They are currently paying back a \$1,000,000 loan taken out in 1996 to fund emergency dam repairs (\$50,000 annual payment for 20 years) and a \$212,000 loan taken out in 2006 to fund replacement of the 4,000 foot long East Fork siphon (\$10,400 annual payment for 20 years).

Proposed Project Budget		
Funding Source (grant/loan or cash reserves)	Amount	Committed/Uncommitted
RRGL Grant	\$99,939	Uncommitted
DNRC WRD SWPB In-Kind Services	\$25,817	Committed
TOTAL	\$125,756	

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$125,756



Seepage below East Fork Rock Creek Main Canal



East Fork Rock Creek Main Canal